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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM Arts and Science dean announces new post" (2003). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 18261.
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NEWS RELEASE

March 6, 2003

Contact: Provost Lois Muir, 243-4689; Thomas Storch, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, 243-4011.

UM ARTS AND SCIENCES DEAN ANNOUNCES NEW POST

MISSOULA--

Thomas Storch, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Montana-Missoula, announced his resignation today.

Storch's last day at UM will be July 11. He has accepted a position as executive vice president and provost at Central Michigan University, where he will assume his duties July 31.

Storch came to UM in summer 2000 from Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., where he served as dean of sciences from 1994 to 2000. Previously, he held the position of director of the Institute for Watershed Studies at Western Washington University from 1990 to 1994.

With master's and doctoral degrees in zoology from the University of Michigan, Storch held faculty appointments at the State University of New York at Fredonia from 1973 to 1990. There he served as assistant professor in the Lake Erie Environmental Studies Program, coordinator of the Recombinant Gene Technology Program, director of the Environmental Resources Center, and, ultimately, professor and associate dean of natural and social sciences.

At UM, Storch has led the College of Arts and Sciences through a difficult period. According to UM Provost Lois Muir, despite repeated budget cuts the college continued to deliver the courses students needed.

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“Dean Storch’s leadership was important during this critical period,” Muir said. “He was able to maintain cooperation and encourage a positive spirit in the college.”

Muir said an interim dean will be selected for the upcoming academic year while a national search is conducted.

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